

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1253

By DeBerry

A RESOLUTION to honor the collegiate fraternity and sorority community and their alumni as they strive for the highest standards.

WHEREAS, Tennessee fraternities and sororities have a rich history and a desire to bring their members together to build better men and women through aspirational organizational ideals and values; and

WHEREAS, fraternities and sororities strive to provide a student experience that includes hands-on service learning, commitment to philanthropy, and leadership training for members to become assets to their future communities; and

WHEREAS, sororities are a proven launch pad for women leaders – a space that allows them to support, encourage, and advocate for each other, and fraternities are more important than ever as we seek to develop men of character; and

WHEREAS, members of the fraternity and sorority community consistently seek to raise the bar in standards of conduct for themselves and their organizations; and

WHEREAS, during the almost two hundred years since the founding of the first fraternal organization, at times, members have compromised individual and organizational values; and

WHEREAS, members of the fraternity and sorority community are in an important position to lead societal and cultural change on issues, such as sexual misconduct, drug and alcohol abuse, respect for all people and their rights, and hazing; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the collegiate fraternity and sorority community and their alumni

as they strive for the highest standards in philanthropy, leadership, friendship, scholarship, and conduct.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we applaud fraternity and sorority life campus advisors as they continue their work with the organizations to achieve their espoused principles and enhance health and safety in the campus community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tennessee's colleges and universities are commended for their continuing efforts to ensure a safe campus community through transparency and education for all students surrounding high-risk behaviors, including sexual misconduct, drug and alcohol abuse, and hazing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that fraternities and sororities, together with Tennessee's colleges and universities, are also commended for their commitment to the promotion of the high ideals the organizations were founded on and their work in collaboration to advance dialogue with key stakeholders to promote lasting cultural change to support positive, healthy experiences for all students and ultimately, a better society.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.